

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on January 27, 2005 at the Department of Land Use and Growth Management

Members Present: Peter Himmelheber, Chairman
Harold Willard, Vice Chairman
Robert Gibbs, Member
James Grusholt, Member
Mary Hayden, Member
Margaret McCoy Padukiewicz, Member
Jack Richardson, Member
Teresa Wilson, LUGM Staff
Carol Buchanan, citizen

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

Embracing Progress Video Presentation

County Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay attended the HPC meeting to present a video about St. Mary's County's plans for future growth and development. The video addressed the revitalization of Lexington Park, education, transportation systems, housing and quality of life. Commissioner President McKay also explained the encroachment issue relating to land adjacent to Patuxent Naval Air Station and the upcoming Base Realignment and Closure Study. He stressed the importance of the base to the overall well-being of St. Mary's County and indicated that quality of life issues are also an important part of the County's plans.

HPC members asked about the status of the Agricultural Land Preservation Program. Mr. McKay indicated that the program is funded and that in addition, money for Program Open Space will be fully funded by 2010. Ms. Padukiewicz noted that farming operations are under pressure from development. Mr. McKay stated that balancing development with traditional agricultural activities is a challenge throughout the region.

Mr. Willard had a suggestion about the TDR program that Commissioner McKay said he should share with the Planning Commission.

The HPC thanked Commissioner President McKay for his presentation.

Introduction of New Member

HPC Chairman Peter Himmelheber welcomed Robert Gibbs to the HPC. Mr. Gibbs said that he looks forward to making a contribution to the work of the HPC.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the November and December 2004 meetings were approved.

HPC Budget

Preservation Planner Teresa Wilson informed the HPC that its FY 2006 Budget will be funded at the same level as FY 2005. She noted that if funds need to be transferred from one line item to another that the HPC can notify the department fiscal secretary through her. The fiscal secretary will prepare and submit a budget amendment with approval of the Planning Director.

Honorarium Money

The HPC discussed the depositing of a \$50 honorarium in its FY 2005 Budget. Mr. Willard moved that the money be deposited in Staff Development. Mr. Grusholt seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Memberships

By unanimous vote the HPC agreed to renew its memberships in Preservation Maryland and the Maryland Heritage Association. The Preservation Maryland membership will be at the \$100 level.

MAHDC Renovator's Residential Series

The HPC agreed unanimously to purchase the Renovator's Roundtable video series from the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions for \$90.00. The videos will be used to present educational sessions for the public about caring for an older or historic home. Since the HPC is a member the price of the video series is discounted.

HPC Meeting Schedule for 2005

The following dates were set for HPC meetings in 2005: February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17, December 15.

Citizen Visitor

Ms. Carol Buchanan spoke to the HPC about her concerns for Clark's Rest, SM-247 on the Maryland Inventory. The land has been sold to a developer and the road slated for the property may result in the demolition of the house. The property is within the town limits of Leonardtown and Ms. Buchanan has spoken to Ms. Colleen Bonnel, the planning director for the town. Since the land now belongs to the developer, it may be necessary to meet with him to suggest alternatives to demolition. Members of the HPC offered to attend any scheduled meetings with the town and developer to lend their support to finding alternatives to demolition.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by: _____ Signed by: _____